Attorney Docket: 2101/50761
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: RICHARD MICHAEL GOOCH ET AL

Serial No.:   NOT YET ASSIGNED   PCT No.: PCT/GB01/01581

Filed: APRIL 5, 2002

Title: ASSEMBLY METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PCT   **April 5, 2002**
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims, prior to the examination of the application during the U.S. National Phase.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows: **(A copy of a marked up version with markings to show changes made is attached hereto.)**

6.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one measuring step or the step of indicating is performed by a measuring device of known position.

8.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of verifying that the position and orientation of the surface of the first part relates in a predetermined manner to the position and orientation of the surface of the second part local to the determined assembly location.

9.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of determining the assembly location is carried out using a retro-reflector supported relative to a guide hole located in the second part.

10.   (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least one measuring step or the step of indicating is carried out using a non-contact technique.

12.   (Amended) A computer program comprising program code means for performing the method steps of measuring, calculating and indicating as defined in claim 1 when the program is run on a computer and/or other processing means associated with suitable measuring and indicating means.

13.   (Amended) A computer program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for performing the method steps of measuring, calculating and indicating as defined in claim 1 when the program is run on a computer and/or other processing means associated with suitable measuring and indicating means.
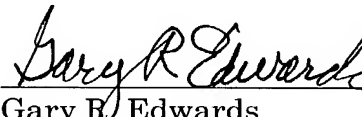
REMARKS

Entry of the amendments to the claims, before examination of the application in the U.S. National Phase is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #2101/50761).

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO THE CLAIMS

6.   (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim,] claim 1, wherein at least one measuring step or the step of indicating is performed by a measuring device of known position.

8.   (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim,] claim 1, further comprising the step of verifying that the position and orientation of the surface of the first part relates in a predetermined manner to the position and orientation of the surface of the second part local to the determined assembly location.

9.   (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim,] claim 1, wherein the step of determining the assembly location is carried out using a retro-reflector supported relative to a guide hole located in the second part.

10.   (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim,] claim 1, wherein at least one measuring step or the step of indicating is carried out using a non-contact technique.

12.   (Amended) A computer program comprising program code means for performing the method steps of measuring, calculating and indicating as defined in [any one of claims 1 to 11] claim 1 when the program is run on a

computer and/or other processing means associated with suitable measuring and indicating means.

13.   (Amended) A computer program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for performing the method steps of measuring, calculating and indicating as defined in [any one of claims 1 to 11] claim 1 when the program is run on a computer and/or other processing means associated with suitable measuring and indicating means.